commenced, "to make the buffaloes come;" and when such is the case, the dance is kept constantly going, both night and day, by the young men "relieving each other," stepping out of the ring as they become fatigued, and others dancing in, in constant rotation, until "buffaloes come," i. e. until their sentinels in the vicinity of the village, or others, bring in the news that buffaloes are near, when the dance ceases, and preparations are made for the hunt.

Plate Nº 9.

BUFFALO HUNT. A SURROUND.

After the preliminaries of the chase have been gone through, as described in the former plate, and the hunting party have reached the vicinity of the herd, scenes like the one represented in this illustration often occur. On one occasion I was invited by the Indians to ride out and witness their attack on a herd of buffaloes, near one of their villages on the Upper Missouri, in the summer of 1832: I sat on my horse and witnessed a scene of this kind; a mode of attacking the buffaloes which they call Wa-rahs-took-kee, a surround.

Some sixty or seventy young men, all mounted on their wild horses, and armed with bows and lances only, cautiously encompassed the grazing herd, by drawing themselves around them in a circle of a mile or two in diameter, and gradually closing in towards the centre, until the herd took the alarm, and in a mass, endeavouring to make their escape, were met by the gathering horsemen, brandishing their weapons and yelling in the most frightful manner; turning the black and rushing mass which moved off in an opposite direction, where they were again met and foiled in a similar manner, and wheeled back in utter confusion. By this time the horsemen had closed in from all sides, forming a continuous line around them; whilst the poor affrighted animals were eddying about in a crowded and confused group, hooking and climbing upon each other, when the work of death commenced. In this grand turmoil a cloud of dust was soon raised, which in part obscured the throng where the hunters were galloping their horses around and driving their whizzing arrows or long lances to the hearts of these noble animals, which, in many instances, becoming infuriated with deadly weapons in their sides, erected their shaggy manes over their bloodshot eyes, and furiously plunged forward at the sides of their assailants' horses; sometimes goring them to death at a lunge, and putting their dismounted riders to flight for their lives. Sometimes the dense crowd was opened, and the blinded horsemen, too intent on their prey, amidst a cloud of dust, were hemmed and wedged in amongst the crowding beasts, over whose backs they were obliged to leap for security, leaving their horses to the fate that might await them in this wild and desperate war. Many were the bulls that turned upon their assailants, meeting them with desperate resistance; and many were the warriors who were dismounted, saving themselves by the superior muscles of their legs. Some who were closely pursued by the bulls wheeled suddenly round, and snatching the half of a buffalo robe from around their waists, threw it over the horns and eyes of the infuriated beast, and darting by its side, drove the arrow or lance to its heart. Others suddenly dashed off upon the prairies by the side of the affrighted animals which had escaped from the throng, and closely escorting them for a few rods, caused their hearts' blood to flow in streams, and brought their huge carcases to the ground.

Thus this grand hunt was soon turned into a desperate battle; which in the space of fifteen minutes ended in the total destruction of the herd, undoubtedly containing some two or three hundreds; all of which met their deaths from the blades of arrows and lances, without the firing of a gun.

Plate Nº 10.

BUFFALO HUNT. WHITE WOLVES ATTACKING A BUFFALO BULL.

By this plate it will be seen that the buffaloes have other enemies than Man to contend with, and that hunting is an occupation not exclusively the province of the Indian, in those wild regions.

There are several varieties of the Wolf species on the American prairies, the most numerous and formidable of which is the *White* Wolf, found in great numbers in a high latitude and near the Rocky Mountains. These animals are equal in size, in many instances, to the largest Newfoundland dog; and, from the whiteness of their hair, appear, at a distance on the green prairies, much like a flock of sheep, and often are seen to the number of fifty or a hundred in a pack; and in this way following the numerous herds of buffaloes from one end of the year to the other, gorging their stomachs with the carcases of those animals that fall by the hands of the hunters, or from sickness and old age. Whilst the buffaloes are grouped together, the wolves seldom attack them, as the former instantly gather for combined resistance, which they effectually make. But when the herds are travelling, it often happens that an aged or wounded one lingers at a distance behind, and when fairly out of sight of the herd, is set upon by swarms of these voracious hunters, which are sure at last to torture him to death, and use him up at a meal.

During my travels in these regions, I have several times come across such gangs of these animals, surrounding and torturing an old or a wounded bull, where it would seem from appearances that they had been for several days in attendance, and at intervals desperately engaged in the effort to take his life. On an occasion when one of my hunting companions and myself were returning to our encampment, with our horses laden with meat, we discovered at a distance, a huge bull encircled by a gang of white